the requirement is not large and an assessment can be made without sending a Central Team, an Inter-Ministerial Group considers the matter. On the basis of the report of CentralTeam or the Inter-Ministerial Group and recommendations of the High Level Committee on Relief, ceilings of expenditure are sanctioned for the States.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Surrender of posts in the Ministry of Food and Civil Supplies

850. SHRI ASHOK NATH VERMA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of posts surrendered under 5 per cent cut and other economy measures during the years 1985-86 and 1986-87 in the Ministry of Food and Civil Supplies and its attached offices, separately-category-wise, Gazetted and non-gazetted;

(b) the number of posts lying vacant for the last one year in each cadre, cadre-wise;

(c) whether it is also a fact that surrendered posts mostly belong to technical non-ministerial cadre, if so, the number of such posts cadre-wise, surrendered, gazetted and non-gazetted;

(d) whether it is also a fact that inspite of reduction in strength, staff in the administration has remained the same if not, the number of posts effected, cadre-wise, gazetted and non-gazetted in the administration; and

(a) the amount saved by reducing the strength during the years 1985-86 and 1986-87 and the amount likely to be saved during 1987-88?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (e) The information is being collected.

Krishi Vigyan Kendras

851. SHRI J. P. GOYAL: Will Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of the Krishi Vigyan Kendras in various States;

(b) what Central assistance was provided to the Krishi Vigyan Kendras during each of the last three years; and

(c) what had been the main achievements of these Krishi Vigyan Kendras during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) The details of the Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) in various States are as follows:

Sl. No.	Name of the State/ Union Territory	No. of KVKs
1.	Andhra Pradesh	6
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1
3.	Assam	2
4.	Bihar	8
5.	Goa	1
6.	Gujarat	5
7.	Haryana	3
8.	Himachal Pradesh	2
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	1
10.	Karnataka	5
11.	Kerala	4
12.	Madhya Pradesh	5
13.	Maharashtra	6
14	Manipur	1
15.	Meghalaya	1
16.	Mizoram	1
17.	Nagaland	1

Sl. No.	Name of the State/ Union Territory	No. of KVKs
18.	Orissa	5
19.	Pondicherry	1
20.	Punjab	1
21.	Rajasthan	6
22.	Sikkim	1
23.	Tamil Nadu	5
24.	Tripura	2
25.	Uttar Pradesh	10
26.	West Bengal	5
	Total	89

(b) The central assistance provided to the Krishi Vigyan Kendras during each of the last three years was as follows:—

(*in lakh Rs.*)

S.N.	Year	Central assistance provided
1.	1984-85	414·56
2.	1985-86	486·99
3.	1986-87	516·15

(c) The Krishi Vigyan Kendras are the vocational training institutions in agriculture and allied areas. During the last three years, 14621 training courses of short as well as long durations have been organized at the K. V. Ks in the disciplines of Crop Production, Livestock Production, Horticulture, Fisheries Nutrition Home Management etc. benefitting 3,37,924 farmers farm-women fishermen far myouths school dropouts and field level extension functionaries.

Buffer stock of fertilizers

852. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that fertiliser glut in the country caused by heavy imports despite higher indigenous production and lower consumption than estimated during the current year;

(b) whether the fertiliser glut has led to heavy price discounts besides seriously eroding the financial viability of the subsidized public sector adversely affecting its resources position;

(c) if so, whether Government propose to set up of a buffer stock both of imported and indigenous fertilisers or reimbursement of carrying costs to over-come the existing over-supply position, if so, by when it is likely to be implemented; and

(d) whether Government propose to stop imports of fertilizers including those from the rupee payment countries till the glut situation normalises, if so, what is the decision, if any, taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FERTILIZERS IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI R. PRABHU): (a) The consumption of fertilisers during the year 1986-87 has been less than the target because of unfavourable weather conditions in many parts of the country. This has resulted in an accumulation of fertiliser stock in the country.

(b) Discounts rainging from Rs. 450 to Rs. 550 per MT on urea and Rs. 650 to Rs. 750 per MT on DAP are reported to have been given. These discounts would adversely affect the generation of internal resources and profits of the companies.

(c) There is no proposal to create a buffer stock of imported or indigenous fertiliser. An on account payment has already been made to the organisations which had to hold imported fertiliser stock for periods much longer than the period for which inventory carrying cost was paid to them earlier.

(d) It has already been decided not to import any Urea or DAP upto September, 1987. Import requirements during the second half of the year will depend upon the demand and supply situation. According to present indications, it would not be necessary to make any imports even during the later part of the year except to meet some unavoidable international com-